

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY.

[Adopted in National Convention at Indianapolis Ind.,
August 1st, 1901.

ARTICLE I.

NAME.

The name of this organization shall be the Socialist Party, except in States where a different name has or may become a legal requirement.

ARTICLE II.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE.

Section 1. There shall be a National Committee, composed of one member from each organized State or Territory, and a quorum of five to be elected from the membership of the locality of the seat of the committee.

Section 2. The members of this committee shall be elected by and from the membership of the States or Territories which they respectively represent by referendum vote. Their term of office shall not be more than two years, and they shall take their seats in the month of January.

Section 3. This committee shall meet in regular session not oftener than once a year. Special meetings shall be called at the request of a majority of members of such committee.

Section 4. Expenses of the National Committee-men in attending meetings shall be paid from the national treasury.

ARTICLE III.

DUTIES AND POWERS.

Section 1. The duties of this committee shall be to supervise and direct the work of the National Secretary; to represent the party in all national and international affairs; to organize unorganized States and Territories; to call national nominating conventions and special conventions called by referendum of the party; to submit questions to referendum; to receive semi-annual reports from the State committees and to make reports to national conventions.

Section 2. The National Committee shall prepare a semi-annual report of all the financial and other business of the party and issue the same to all State and Territorial organizations.

Section 3. The National Committee shall also arrange a system of financial secretaries' and treasurers' books for locals, the same to be furnished at cost to locals upon application.

Section 4. The National Committee shall neither publish nor designate any official organ.

ARTICLE IV.

LOCAL QUORUM.

Section 1. The National Committee shall elect a committee of five from the party membership of the locality selected for the party headquarters, to supervise and assist the National Secretary as the National Committee shall require and direct. Said committee of five shall form part of and be a quorum of the National Committee, but shall be subject to removal at any time by the National Committee. On the question of removal the said local quorum shall have no vote.

Section 2. Any member of the National Committee not a member of the local quorum may require the National Secretary to submit to a vote of the whole National Committee questions as to the removal of the local committee or the National Secretary; also for its consideration any part of the work of the National Secretary or of the local committee or any business belonging to the National Committee.

ARTICLE V.

NATIONAL SECRETARY.

Section 1. The National Secretary shall be elected by the National Committee; his term of office to be for one year, to begin on the first day of February of each year, beginning with the year 1902. The National Secretary shall be subject to removal at the committee's discretion.

Section 2. The National Secretary shall be in communication with the members of the National Committee, the officers of the organized States and Territories and with members in unorganized States and Territories. The National Secretary shall receive as compensation the sum of one

thousand dollars annually.

Section 3. The National Secretary shall prepare a monthly statement of the financial and other business of his office, and when approved by the local quorum of five shall issue the same to all party organizations in such way as the National Committee shall direct.

ARTICLE VI.

STATE ORGANIZATIONS.

Section 1. Each State or Territory may organize in such way or manner, and under such rules and regulations, as it may determine, but not in conflict with the provisions of this constitution.

Section 2. A State or Territory shall be deemed organized and shall have a right to affiliate upon the organization of not less than four branches, each branch to consist of not less than five members. Each State or Territory so organized shall receive a charter.

Section 3. The platform of the Socialist Party adopted in convention, or by referendum vote, shall be the supreme declaration of the party, and all State and municipal organizations shall, in the adoption of their platforms, conform thereto.

Section 4. In States and Territories in which there is one central organization affiliated with the party and representing at least ten local organizations in different parts of such State or Territory respectively, the State or Territorial organization shall have the sole jurisdiction of the members residing within their respective territories, and the sole control of all matters pertaining to the propaganda, organization and financial affairs within such State or Territory, and the National Committee and sub-committee or officers thereof shall have no right to interfere in such matters without the consent of the respective State or Territorial organizations.

Section 5. The State committees shall make semi-annual reports to the National Committee concerning their membership, financial condition and general standing of the party.

Section 6. The State committees shall pay to the National Committee every month a sum equal to five cents for every member in good standing within their respective territories.

ARTICLE VII.

HEADQUARTERS.

The headquarters shall be located at St. Louis, Mo. But said headquarters may be changed by the National Committee, subject to a referendum of the party.

ARTICLE VIII.

AMENDMENTS.

This constitution may be amended by a national convention, subject to a majority referendum vote of the party or by a referendum without the action of such a convention, and it shall be the duty of the National Committee to submit such amendment to a referendum vote within thirty days after being requested to do so by five locals in three different States.

ARTICLE IX.

REFERENDUM.

Section 1. All acts of the National Committee shall be subject to referendum vote after the same manner as provided in the preceding section.

Section 2. All propositions or other matter submitted for the referendum of the party shall be presented without comment.

ARTICLE X.

BASIS OF REPRESENTATION.

The basis of representation in any national convention shall be by States, each State being entitled to one delegate at large and one additional delegate for every hundred members in good standing.

AMENDMENT I.

Article VI, Section 4, shall conclude as follows: Provided that the National Committee shall have power to arrange Interstate Lecture Tours with such Locals as may desire. (Adopted April 12, 1902.)

Issued by the National Committee of the Socialist Party

LEON GREENBAUM, National Secretary,

427 Emilie, Building, ST. LOUIS, MO.